

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

015343

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	China	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Food Rationing in Peiping, Amoy and Canton.	DATE DISTR.	25 February 1954
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

- 25X1 1. In October 1953, after a population check in Peiping by Chinese Communist cadres of the municipal public security bureau, Peiping residents were issued food rationing coupons. Flour and other cereals were to be rationed after November 1953. Each person in Peiping, regardless of age, was to be permitted to purchase eight catties of flour each month.
- 25X1 2. On 22 November 1953 a food rationing system was set up in Amoy permitting each resident to purchase 30 catties of rice per month and four tenths of a tael¹ of cooking oil per day.
- 25X1 3. On 1 December 1953 a food rationing system was started in Canton. In November 1953 municipal public security officials had determined the number of people in each household in Canton before issuing a ration coupon to each member of every household for purchasing food from designated provision stores. Under the rationing system, each person could buy 30 catties of coarse rice per month; and, regardless of the number of persons in it, each household could buy one-half a catty of cooking oil per month. Other foods, including sweet potatoes, taro, and other vegetables, were on sale at co-operative associations. After the rationing system was put into effect in Canton, people complained of the distance they had to travel and the cost of transportation to the designated stores.

Comment. A tael is approximately 1.3 ounces.

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